



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 7080

Yoshihiko MATSUKAWA et al. : Docket No. 2000\_1663A

**RECEIVED**

FEB 06 2002

Serial No. 09/719,231 : Group Art Unit 2151

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Filed February 22, 2001 : Examiner

IMAGE CODING APPARATUS, IMAGE DECODING APPARATUS, CHARACTER COLLATION APPARATUS, AND DATA STORAGE MEDIUM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, DC 20231

FEB 07 2002

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. .

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1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

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within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

**and thus no certification and/or fee is required.**

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1)  the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**
- (2)  the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c.  This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and**

**the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

a.  that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b.  that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3.  Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

a.  a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,

- b.  a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - c.  the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
  - d.  the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e.  the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5.  A foreign language office action (with an English translation) citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Yoshihiko MATSUKAWA et al.

By



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February 1, 2002

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

FEB 01 2002

ATTY DOCKET NO.  
000\_1663ASERIAL NO.  
09/719,231U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT  
*(Use several sheets if necessary)*

Date Submitted to PTO: February 1, 2002

APPLICANT  
Yoshihiko MATSUKAWA et al.FILING DATE  
February 22, 2001GROUP  
2151

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
	AB						RECEIVED
	AC						
	AD						FEB 06 2002
	AE						TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700
	AF			RECEIVED			
	AG			FEB 12 2002			RECEIVED
	AH			Technology Center 2600			FEB 07 2002
	AI						Technology Center 2100

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AJ	04 287179	10/1992	JP			Abstract
	AK	05 37700	2/1993	JP			Abstract
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AO	
	AP	
	AQ	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED